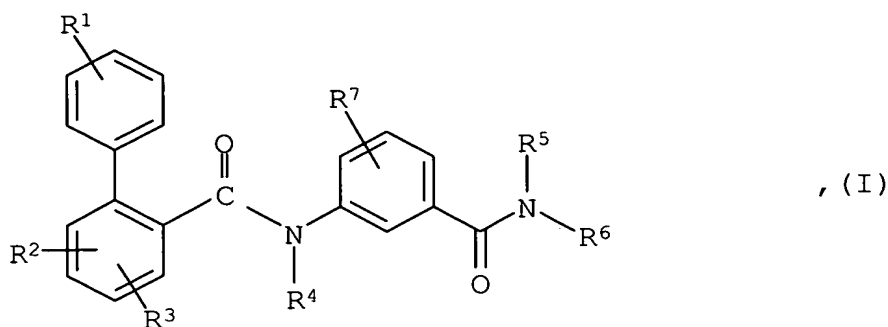


We Claim:

- 5 1. A Biphenylcarboxylic acid amide of the following formula (I):



wherein

- 10 R¹, R² and R³, which may be identical or different, in each case denote a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₃-alkyl group wherein the hydrogen atoms may be wholly or partially replaced by fluorine atoms, a hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino- or di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino group,

- 15 wherein R¹ and R² in the ortho,ortho' position of the biphenyl group of formula I together may also denote a carbonyl group,

R^4 denotes a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

- 20 R⁵ denotes a hydrogen atom or a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₆-alkyl group and

R⁶ denotes a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₆-alkyl group,

an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino or di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino group,

a C₃₋₇-cycloalkylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-amino group, wherein

in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl group may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted
 5 by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, benzoyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-carbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

an arylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-arylamino, heteroarylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-heteroarylamino,
 10 C₁₋₇-alkyl-carbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₇-alkyl-carbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, heteroarylcarbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-arylcarbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-heteroarylcarbonylamino, C₁₋₈-alkoxy-carbonyl-amino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-(C₁₋₈-alkoxy)-carbonylamino group,

15 an aryl, aryl-carbonyl-aryl, aryl-C₁₋₃-alkoxy-aryl or aryl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aryl group,

a heteroaryl group,

an aryl group substituted by a heteroaryl group,

20 a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-aryl group, while

in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl group may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted
 25 by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, benzoyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-carbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group, or

the two hydrogen atoms of the methylene group in the 3 position of a cyclopentyl group or
 30 in the 3- or 4-position of a cyclohexyl or cycloheptyl group may be replaced by an n-butylene, n-pentylene, n-hexylene, 1,2-ethylenedioxy or 1,3-propylenedioxy group or

in a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyl group one or two single bonds separated from each other and from position 1 by at least one bond may each be fused with a phenyl group,

- 5 a phenylcarbonylamino-aryl, phenylaminocarbonyl-aryl,
N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylcarbonylamino-aryl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl-aryl
group,

- a straight-chain C₁₋₄-alkyl group optionally substituted in the 1 position by a
10 C₃₋₅-cycloalkyl group or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group, which is terminally substituted

by an aryl or heteroaryl group,

- by an aryl-C C-, heteroaryl-C C-, aryl-CH=CH- or heteroaryl-CH=CH- group,
15

by an aryl group which is fused to a heteroaryl group via two adjacent carbon atoms,

- by a heteroaryl group which is fused to an aryl or heteroaryl group via two adjacent carbon
atoms or, in the case of a 5-membered heteroaryl group, via an imino nitrogen atom and an
20 adjacent carbon atom,

by an aryl group which is substituted

- by an aryl or heteroaryl group,
25

by a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl group or a 4 to 7 membered cycloalkyleneimino group, which

may each be fused to a phenyl ring via two adjacent carbon atoms or

- 30 wherein the two hydrogen atoms of the methylene group in the 3 position of a 5-membered
ring or in position 3 or 4 of a 6- or 7-membered ring may be replaced by an n-butylene,

n-pentylene, n-hexylene, 1,2-ethylenedioxy or 1,3-propylenedioxy group or by an oxygen atom or

wherein in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of a 6- or 7-membered ring may
 5 be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₈-alkyl-carbonyl, C₁₋₈-alkoxycarbonyl, benzoyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl), C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

10 or by a phenylaminosulphonyl or phenylsulphonylamino group,

by a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl group wherein

in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyl group
 15 may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₈-alkyl-carbonyl, C₁₋₈-alkoxycarbonyl, benzoyl, phenyl-(C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl), C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

20 by a phenylcarbonylamino-aryl, phenylaminocarbonyl-aryl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylcarbonylamino-aryl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl-aryl group,

by a heteroarylcarbonylamino-aryl, heteroarylaminocarbonyl-aryl,
 25 heteroarylcarbonyl-N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino-aryl or heteroaryl-N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl-aryl group,

by a straight-chain or branched C₄₋₇-alkyl-carbonylamino-aryl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₄₋₇-alkyl-carbonylamino-aryl group,

30

by a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-carbonylamino-aryl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-carbonylamino-aryl group,

by a C₃₋₇-Cycloalkyl-aminocarbonyl-aryl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-aminocarbonyl-aryl group,

by a cycloalkyleneimino-carbonylamino-aryl or cycloalkyleneimino-carbonyl-N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino-aryl group wherein the cycloalkyleneimino moiety is 4- to 7-membered,

by an aryl-aminocarbonylamino-aryl group wherein one or both amino-hydrogen atoms may each be replaced by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

by a hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, C₃₋₇-cyclo-alkyloxycarbonyl, aryloxycarbonyl, heteroaryloxycarbonyl, aryl-C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl or heteroaryl-C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl group or

by an aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, aryl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aryl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, aminocarbonyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy-carbonyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl group,

a straight-chain or branched C₂₋₆-alkyl group which is terminally substituted .

by a hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, aryloxy, heteroaryloxy- aryl-C₁₋₃-alkoxy or heteroaryl-C₁₋₃-alkoxy group,

by an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkylcarbonylamino, arylcarbonylamino, heteroarylcarbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-arylcarbonylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-heteroarylcarbonylamino group,

or R⁵ and R⁶ together with the enclosed nitrogen atom denote a 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group wherein the cycloalkylene moiety may be fused to a phenyl ring,

- 5 R⁷ denotes a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, a C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, nitro or amino group,

wherein by the term aryl group mentioned above is meant a phenyl, 1-naphthyl or 2-naphthyl group,

10

by the term heteroaryl group mentioned above is meant a 5-membered heteroaromatic ring linked via a nitrogen or carbon atom, which contains

an imino group, an oxygen or sulphur atom,

15

an imino group and an oxygen, sulphur or nitrogen atom,

an imino group and two nitrogen atoms or

20

an oxygen or sulphur atom and two nitrogen atoms,

or a 6-membered heteroaromatic ring linked via a carbon atom which contains one or two nitrogen atoms,

25

and wherein a 1,4-butadienylene group may be attached both to the abovementioned 5-membered heteroaromatic rings via two adjacent carbon atoms or via an imino nitrogen atom and an adjacent carbon atom and also to the 6-membered heteroaromatic rings in each case via two adjacent carbon atoms and the bicyclic heteroaromatic rings thus formed may also be bonded via a carbon atom of the 1,4- butadienylene group,

30

a hydrogen atom bonded to a nitrogen atom of the abovementioned 5-membered monocyclic or fused heteroaryl groups may be replaced by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkylcarbonyl, phenylcarbonyl or phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylcarbonyl group,

- 5 all the abovementioned phenyl, aryl and heteroaryl groups as well as aromatic or heteroaromatic parts of molecules in the carbon skeleton may be monosubstituted by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group, by a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl or a 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group, while
- 10 in each case the methylene group in position 4 of a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom, by a sulphinyl or sulphonyl group or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₅-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₄-alkyl-carbonyl, C₁₋₄-alkoxy-carbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl or di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl group,
- 15 by a trifluoromethyl, phenyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkoxy, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, amino-C₁₋₃-alkyl, tert.butoxycarbonylamino-C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkylamino-C₁₋₃-alkyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₃-alkyl, amino-C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl-amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino-C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl-amino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino-C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl-
- 20 amino, phenylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylamino, acetylamino, propionylamino, benzoylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-benzoylamino, acetyl, propionyl, benzoyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylamino-carbonyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethyl-aminocarbonyl or di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)aminocarbonyl group, by a 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino-carbonyl group or a cyano group or, with the exception of 5-
- 25 membered heteroaryl groups or heteroaromatic parts of molecules containing more than two heteroatoms, may also be disubstituted by one of the abovementioned substituents and one substituent selected from among fluorine, chlorine, bromine, C₁₋₃-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, hydroxy and amino, wherein two adjacent hydrogen atoms in a phenyl group or a phenyl moiety contained in the groups defined above may also be
- 30 replaced by a methylenedioxy or 1,2-ethylenedioxy group, or may also be trisubstituted by three substituents selected from among fluorine, chlorine and bromine atoms and C₁₋₃-alkyl

groups, wherein the substituents may be identical or different and the abovementioned phenyl groups or phenyl moieties may in turn be substituted by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a methyl, trifluoromethyl or methoxy group,

- 5 in all the abovementioned 4- to 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino groups the cycloalkylene moiety may be fused to a phenyl ring or

one or two hydrogen atoms in each case may be replaced by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group and/or

- 10 in each case the methylene group in position 4 of a 6- or 7-membered cycloalkyleneimino group may be substituted by a hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₆-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylamino-carbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylamino group or

- 15 may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom, by a sulphinyl or sulphonyl group or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, benzoyl, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

- 20 the hydrogen atoms in the C₁₋₃-alkyl and alkoxy groups mentioned in the definition of the above groups may be wholly or partially replaced by fluorine atoms,

additionally any carboxy, amino or imino group present in the abovementioned groups may be substituted by a group which can be cleaved *in vivo*,

25

or a tautomer, a diastereomer, or an enantiomer, or mixtures thereof or a salt thereof.

2. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein

- 30 R¹ denotes a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group wherein the hydrogen atoms may be wholly or partially replaced by fluorine atoms,

R² denotes a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group or

R¹ and R² in the ortho, ortho' position of the biphenyl group of formula I together denote a
5 carbonyl group,

R³, R⁴ and R⁵ which may be identical or different, each denote a hydrogen atom or a
C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

10 R⁶ denotes a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group,

an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino or di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino group,

a C₃₋₇-cycloalkylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-amino group, wherein

15 in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of the cyclohexyl group may be replaced
by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl,
phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, C₁₋₈-alkoxy-carbonyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl,
di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenyl-aminocarbonyl or

20 N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

a phenylamino, 1-naphthylamino or 2-naphthylamino group optionally substituted at the
nitrogen atom by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

25 a C₁₋₄-alkyl-carbonylamino, phenylcarbonylamino or C₁₋₈-alkoxy-carbonylamino group,

a phenyl, biphenyl, 1-naphthyl, 2-naphthyl, phenylcarbonyl-phenyl,
phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkoxyphenyl or phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylphenyl group which may be substituted in
the aromatic moieties in each case by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, by a
30 straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group, by a trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy,

amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, acetylamino, benzoylamino, acetyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₃-alkylamino-carbonyl or cyano group,

a heteroaryl group or a heteroaryl-phenyl group,

5

a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-phenyl group, wherein

in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of the cyclohexyl group may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkylcarbonyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-
10 (C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group, or

the two hydrogen atoms of the methylene group in the 3 position of a cyclopentyl group or in the 4-position of a cyclohexyl group may be replaced by an n-butylene, n-pentylene,
15 1,2-ethylenedioxy or 1,3-propylenedioxy group or

in a cyclopentyl or cyclohexyl group one or two single bonds separated from each other and from position 1 by at least one bond may each be fused to a phenyl group,

20

a phenylcarbonylamino-phenyl, phenylaminocarbonyl-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylcarbonylamino-phenyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl-phenyl group,

25 a straight-chain C₁₋₄-alkyl group optionally substituted in the 1 position by a cyclopropyl group or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group, which is terminally substituted

by a phenyl, biphenyl, 1-naphthyl or 2-naphthyl group optionally substituted by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group, a
30 trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, difluoromethoxy, benzyloxy, aminomethyl, amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, phenylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylamino,

acetylamino, acetyl, propionyl, benzoyl, hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₄-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkylamino-carbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)aminocarbonyl, 2,2,2-trifluoroethylaminocarbonyl, pyrrolidinocarbonyl, piperidinocarbonyl or cyano group wherein two adjacent hydrogen atoms may also be replaced by a methylenedioxy or
5 1,2-ethylenedioxy group,

by a heteroaryl group optionally substituted in the carbon skeleton by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy group, by a trifluoromethyl, phenyl or cyano group,

10 by a phenyl-C C- or phenyl-CH=CH- group which may be substituted in the phenyl moiety by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy group, by a trifluoromethyl, dimethylamino, phenyl or cyano group,

15 by an indolyl, benzimidazolyl, quinoliny, isoquinoliny, quinoxaliny or quinazoliny group bonded via a carbon atom or, in the case of the first two groups, via a nitrogen atom,

20 by a phenyl group which is substituted by a heteroaryl group optionally substituted in the carbon skeleton by a fluorine, chlorine, bromine or iodine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group, by a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl, trifluoromethyl, phenyl or cyano group,

by a C₅₋₆-cycloalkyl group or a 5- or 6-membered cycloalkyleneimino group which

25 may be fused to a phenyl ring in each case via two adjacent carbon atoms or

wherein the two hydrogen atoms of the methylene group in the 3 position of a 5-membered ring or in the 4 position of a 6-membered ring may be replaced by an n-butylene, n-pentylene, n-hexylene, 1,2-ethylenedioxy or 1,3-propylenedioxy group or by an oxygen
30 atom or

wherein the methylene group in the 4 position of a 6-membered ring may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₄-alkyl-carbonyl, C₁₋₄-alkoxy-carbonyl or benzoyl group,

5 by a phenylaminosulphonylphenyl or phenylsulphonyl-aminophenyl group,

by a C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl group, wherein

10 in each case the methylene group in the 4 position of the cyclohexyl group may be replaced by an oxygen or sulphur atom or by an imino group optionally substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylaminocarbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

15 by a phenylcarbonylamino-phenyl, phenylaminocarbonyl-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylcarbonylamino-phenyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl-phenyl group, phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl-phenyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-carbonylamino-phenyl,
 20 N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-carbonylamino-phenyl, C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-aminocarbonyl-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl-aminocarbonyl-phenyl, C₄₋₆-alkyl-carbonylamino-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₄₋₆-alkyl-carbonylamino-phenyl, heteroarylcarbonylamino-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-heteroarylcarbonylamino-phenyl, pyrrolidinocarbonyl-amino-phenyl,
 25 piperidinocarbonyl-amino-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-pyrrolidinocarbonyl-amino-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-piperidinocarbonyl-amino-phenyl, phenylaminocarbonylamino-phenyl, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonylamino-phenyl or N,N-di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonylamino-phenyl group,

30 by a hydroxycarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxycarbonyl, phenyloxycarbonyl or heteroaryloxycarbonyl group,

by an aminocarbonyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl, benzyl-aminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, aminocarbonyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy-carbonyl-C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl group,

5

a straight-chain C₂₋₃-alkyl group which is terminally substituted

by a hydroxy, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, phenoxy or phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkoxy group or

10 by an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-amino, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonylamino, N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonylamino, phenylcarbonylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)phenylcarbonylamino group,

or R⁵ and R⁶ together with the enclosed nitrogen atom denote a pyrrolidino or piperidino
15 group which

may each be fused via two adjacent carbon atoms to a phenyl ring optionally substituted by one or two C₁₋₃-alkoxy groups, by an amino, C₁₋₃-alkylamino, acetylamino, aminomethylcarbonylamino or dimethylaminomethylcarbonylamino group,

20

or a piperazino, morpholino or thiomorpholino group, while the nitrogen atom in the 4 position of the piperazino group may be substituted by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl, C₁₋₃-alkylcarbonyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-aminocarbonyl or phenylaminocarbonyl group, and

25 R⁷ denotes a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group or a nitro or amino group,

while, unless otherwise specified, by the term heteroaryl group mentioned above is meant a
2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, pyrazinyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 4-pyrimidinyl, 5-pyrimidinyl,
30 3-pyridazinyl, 4-pyridazinyl, 1-pyrrolyl, 2-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 2-furyl, 3-furyl, 2-thienyl, 3-thienyl, 1-imidazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 4-imidazolyl, 1-pyrazolyl, 3-pyrazolyl, 4-pyrazolyl,

2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, [1,2,3]-thiadiazol-4-yl, benzimidazol-2-yl, benzimidazol-5-yl, or imidazo-[1,2-a]pyridin-2-yl group optionally substituted in the carbon skeleton by up to three C₁₋₃-alkyl groups and

5 all the abovementioned phenyl groups, heteroaryl groups, aromatic or heteroaromatic parts of molecules may optionally additionally be substituted in the carbon skeleton by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a cyano group or by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₃-alkyl or trifluoromethyl group,

10 and/or a hydrogen atom bonded to a nitrogen atom of a heteroaryl group or heteroaromatic part of a molecule may be replaced by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, phenyl or C₁₋₃-alkylcarbonyl group, or a tautomer, a diastereomer, or an enantiomer, or mixtures thereof or a salt thereof.

15 3. A compound of formula I according to claim 1, wherein

R¹ denotes a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, a C₁₋₃-alkyl or trifluoromethyl group,

20 R² denotes a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group or

R¹ and R² in the ortho, ortho' position of the biphenyl group of formula I may together also denote a carbonyl group,

25 R³ and R⁴ each denote a hydrogen atom,

R⁵ denotes a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group,

30 R⁶ denotes a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group,

a phenyl, biphenyl or phenyl-C₁₋₃-alkylphenyl group,

a straight-chain C₁₋₃-alkyl group optionally substituted in the 1 position by a cyclopropyl group or a C₁₋₃-alkyl group which is terminally substituted

5

by a phenyl or biphenyl group which may be substituted in each case by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl group, by a trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, phenylamino or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylamino group,

10 by a 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl or 1H-benzimidazol-2-yl group,

by a phenyl group which is substituted by a 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl, 4-pyridyl, pyrazinyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 4-pyrimidinyl, 5-pyrimidinyl, 3-pyridazinyl, 4-pyridazinyl, 1-pyrrolyl, 2-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 1-imidazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 4-imidazolyl, 1-pyrazolyl, 3-pyrazolyl, 15 4-pyrazolyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl, [1,2,3]-thiadiazol-4-yl, benzimidazol-2-yl or imidazo-[1,2-a]pyridin-2-yl group, wherein the abovementioned heteroaromatic groups may be substituted in the carbon skeleton by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a phenyl, C₁₋₄-alkyl, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₃-alkoxy, dimethylamino or C₃₋₇-cycloalkyl group,

20 by a phenyl group which is substituted by a pyrrolidino or piperidino group optionally fused to a phenyl group,

by a phenyl-C C- group which may be substituted in the phenyl moiety by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₄-alkyl or C₁₋₃-alkoxy group, 25 by a trifluoromethyl or phenyl group,

by a 4-piperidinyl group optionally substituted at the nitrogen atom by a C₁₋₃-alkyl, C₁₋₃-alkyl-carbonyl, benzoyl, C₁₋₃-alkylaminocarbonyl, di-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, phenylamino-carbonyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl group,

30

by a phenylcarbonylamino-phenyl, phenylaminocarbonyl-phenyl,

N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylcarbonylamino-phenyl or

N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-phenylaminocarbonyl-phenyl group optionally substituted in the terminal phenyl moieties by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group

5 or

by a heteroaryl-carbonylamino-phenyl or N-(C₁₋₃-alkyl)-heteroaryl-carbonylamino-phenyl group, wherein the heteroaryl moiety is selected from among 2-pyridyl, 3-pyridyl,

4-pyridyl, pyrazinyl, 2-pyrimidinyl, 4-pyrimidinyl, 5-pyrimidinyl, 3-pyridazinyl,

10 4-pyridazinyl, 1-pyrrolyl, 2-pyrrolyl, 3-pyrrolyl, 1-imidazolyl, 2-imidazolyl, 4-imidazolyl,

1-pyrazolyl, 3-pyrazolyl, 4-pyrazolyl, 2-thiazolyl, 4-thiazolyl, 5-thiazolyl and

[1,2,3]-thiadiazol-4-yl, wherein a hydrogen atom bound to a nitrogen atom of a heteroaromatic group and/or a hydrogen atom bound to a carbon atom of a heteroaromatic group may in each case be replaced by a C₁₋₃-alkyl group, and

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R⁷ denotes a hydrogen, fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, a C₁₋₃-alkyl group or an amino group,

while all the abovementioned phenyl groups, heteroaryl groups, aromatic or heteroaromatic

20 parts of molecules in the carbon skeleton may optionally additionally be substituted by a fluorine, chlorine or bromine atom, by a straight-chain or branched C₁₋₃-alkyl group, by a cyano or a trifluoromethyl group,

or a tautomer, a diastereomer, or an enantiomer, or mixtures thereof or a salt thereof.

25

4. A compound of formula I according to claim 1 selected from the group consisting of:

(a) N-[4-(3-Methyl-5-phenyl-pyrazol-1-yl)-phenylmethyl]-3-(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-carbonylamino)-benzoic acid amide;

30

(b) N-(4'-Methylbiphenyl-4-methyl)-3-(biphenyl-2-carbonylamino)-benzoic acid amide,

(c) N-[4-(Pyridin-2-yl-carbonylamino)-phenylmethyl]-3-(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-carbonylamino)-benzoic acid amide,

5 (d) N-[3-(4-Isopropylphenyl)-prop-2-ynyl]-3-(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-carbonylamino)-benzoic acid amide and

(e) N-[4-(1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroquinolin-1-yl)-phenylmethyl]-3-(4'-trifluoromethylbiphenyl-2-carbonylamino)-benzoic acid amide,

10

and the salts thereof.

5. A compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4 in the form of its physiologically acceptable salt.

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6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound according to any one of claims 1 to 4, or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof, together with one or more inert carriers and/or diluents.

20

7. A method of lowering the plasma level of atherogenic lipoproteins in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to any one of claims 1 to 4 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.

25

8. A method of treating hyperlipidaemias, atherosclerosis or the clinical sequelae thereof, diabetes mellitus, adiposity or pancreatitis in a subject in need thereof, comprising administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula I according to any one of claims 1 to 4 or a physiologically acceptable salt thereof.